

# Fort Independence Indian Community of Paiute Indians of the Fort Independence Reservation

**Elected Officials:** Chairperson Carl Dahlberg

**Environmental Director:** Cheyenne Stone

**Land Base:** 552 acres

**Primary economy:** Tourism

**Population (Census 2010):** 93 residents live on the Reservation

## **EPA Funding (2017-2018)**

Clean Water Act Monitoring	\$60,000
Nonpoint Source Pollution Control	\$30,000
Clean Air Act Monitoring	\$91,000
General Assistance Program	<u>\$217,300</u>
	<b>\$398,300</b>



## **General Assistance Program**

The Tribe employs a full-time Environmental Director. In FY18 The Tribe is developing an EPA/Tribal Environmental Plan, updating a Solid Waste Management Plan, expanding their recycling program, developing a composting program, and cleaning up an open dump.

*Contact: Damian Willson, 415-972-3453*

## **Clean Air Act Program**

The Tribe has received Clean Air Act funding since FY2005. The Air program is currently using mobile air monitoring equipment to monitor for PM2.5 & PM10, along with stationary PM2.5 & meteorological and visibility monitoring. In July 2014 the Air/Meteorological Station began running on solar power. All excess power generated by this system is sent to the LADWP grid, and the Environmental Department receives a credit on their electric bill each month. The Tribe has completed an Air Emissions Inventory, and has developed QAPPs for their meteorological station and PM2.5/PM10 monitor. The Tribe's Air Quality Program's webpage provides near real-time meteorological and PM2.5/PM10 data from the Tribe's meteorological station located on the Northern end of the Reservation. The Tribe continues to participate in local and regional air quality initiatives surrounding the Owens Valley Lake.

*Contact: Roberto Gutierrez, 415-947-4276*

## **Solid Waste**

The Tribe has an Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan, and is expanding their recycling program to include door-to-door collection service for 38 tribal residences on the Reservation. The Tribe has established a *North 40* recycling center on the Reservation, and is working with Inyo County and nearby tribes to establish Memorandums of Agreements to receive to receive additional recyclable materials including cardboard, glass, aluminum, and plastic bottles.

*Contact: Jenny Stephenson, 415-972-3429*

## **Water Programs**

The Tribe has been receiving water monitoring funds since FY1998. The Tribe uses funding to monitor and assess Oak Creek. In March 2000, the Tribe received TAS for their Nonpoint Source program. The Tribe is currently using Nonpoint Source funding to manage nonpoint source pollution impacts to the reservation and provide outreach and education to tribal members.

*Contact: Howard Kohan, 415-972-3143*

## **Fort Independence Public Water System**

ETT Score as of 4/2018: 0 points - *Full compliance*

The Tribe operates a public water system which has approximately 40 connections and serves 100 people. Treatment is limited to chlorination of groundwater. A water storage tank on the upper part of the reservation maintains system pressure by gravity; one booster station increases pressure in the campground area.

*Contact: Karl Banks, 415-972-3557*